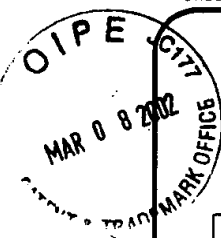


A3

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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR
DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

☐ Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing OR ☒ Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number	2060/67
First Named Inventor	Richard C. Essig
COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
Application Number	10 / 032,854
Filing Date	October 26, 2001
Art Unit	3727
Examiner Name	

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

SPARE TIRE CARRIER FOR A VEHICLE

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

10/26/2001

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number 10/032,854 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

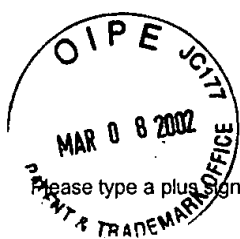
☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

[Page 1 of 2]

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DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Customer Number or Bar Code Label	23381	OR <input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence address below
W. Scott Carson, Esq. Name Dorr, Carson, Sloan & Birney, P.C.				
3010 E. 6th Ave. Address				
City Denver		State CO	ZIP 80206	
Country U.S.A.	Telephone 303-333-3010		Fax 303-333-1470	
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.				
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR :		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor		
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname		
Richard C.		Essig		
Inventor's Signature <i>Richard C Essig</i>			Date 2/25/02	
Residence: City	Berthoud	State	CO	Citizenship U.S.A.
5512 Beverly Drive Mailing Address				
City	Berthoud	State	CO	Country U.S.A.
NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor		
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname		
Inventor's Signature		Date		
Residence: City		State		Citizenship
Mailing Address				
City		State		Country
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the ____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.				



#3

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box



PTO/SB/81 (02-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0035

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT

Application Number	10/032,854
Filing Date	October 26, 2001
First Named Inventor	Richard C. Essig
Title	SPARE TIRE CARRIER FOR A VEHICLE
Group Art Unit	3727
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2060/67

I hereby appoint:

☒ Practitioners at Customer Number

23381

Place Customer
Number Bar Code
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OR

☐ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to:

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☒ Firm or
Individual Name

W. Scott Carson, Esq.

Address

Dorr, Carson, Sloan & Birney, P.C.

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State

CO

Zip

80206

Country

USA

Telephone

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Fax

303-333-1470

I am the:

☐ Applicant/Inventor.

☒ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.

Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name

Ross MacLean, President of Bestop, Inc., the Assignee

Signature

✓ *R. N. MacLean*

Date

✓ 2-21-02

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☒ *Total of 1 forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)Applicant/Patent Owner: Bestop, Inc.Application No./Patent No.: 10/032,854 Filed/Issue Date: October 26, 2001Entitled: SPARE TIRE CARRIER FOR A VEHICLEBestop, Inc., a corporation

(Name of Assignee)

(Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.
The extent (by, percentage) of its ownership interest is _____%

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

- B. ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: _____ To: _____

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Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

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Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

- ☐ Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

✓ 2-21-02

Date

Ross MacLean

Typed or printed name

✓ R. H. MacLean

Signature

President

Title